

IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Canceled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~striketrough~~. When striketrough cannot easily be perceived, or when five or fewer characters are deleted, [[double brackets]] are used to show the deletion. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (canceled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered). Please AMEND claim 1 and ADD new claim 7 in accordance with the following:

1. (currently amended) A fuel cell device comprising:
at least two fuel cells, each comprising a solid-electrolyte layer having first and second surfaces, an anode layer formed on the first surface of the solid-electrolyte layer, and a cathode layer formed on the other surface of the solid-electrolyte layer;
said at least two fuel cells being mutually arranged in such a manner that said anode layer of one of said fuel cells faces said anode layer of another, adjacent fuel cell, with a predetermined space between them and said space extends from a lower position to an upper position; ~~and~~
a fuel supply unit for supplying fuel into said space at the lower position thereof so that a flame is formed in said space in a direction in which said space extends,
said space defined between the adjacent anode layers being an open space at the upper position where the flame extends and being an open space at the lower position where the fuel supply unit is arranged, and
the anode layer being directly exposed to the flame and the cathode layer being isolated from the flame, but exposed to air.

2. (original) A fuel cell device as set forth in claim 1, wherein said at least two fuel cells have respective cylindrical shapes, which are concentrically arranged in such a manner that said space defines an annular-shaped space between said anode layers of the two adjacent fuel cells.

3. (original) A fuel cell device as set forth in claim 1, wherein said at least two fuel cells have respective flat-shapes, which are arranged in parallel to each other in such a manner that said space defines a flat space having a predetermined width between said anode layers of the adjacent two fuel cells arranged in parallel.

4. (original) A fuel cell device as set forth in claim 1, wherein said fuel supply unit is a gaseous fuel supply unit.

5. (original) A fuel cell device as set forth in claim 1, wherein said fuel supply unit is a liquid fuel supply unit.

6. (original) A fuel cell device as set forth in claim 1, wherein said anode layer is made of a fired material mainly composed of NiO in which Li is contained in a solid solution.

7. (new) A fuel cell device comprising:
at least two fuel cells arranged such that an anode layer of one of said fuel cells faces an anode layer of another, adjacent fuel cell, with a space between them; and
a fuel supply unit supplying fuel into said space at a lower position thereof, so that a flame is formed in said space in a direction in which said space extends,
wherein the anode layers are directly exposed to the flame and the cathode layers are isolated from the flame, but exposed to air.